

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 020814
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 020814

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 02816 SECSTATE INFO AMMAN, DAMASCUS,
JERUSALEM, JIDDA AND TEL AVIV JAN 25.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 02816

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

JERUSALEM FOR USDEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV EG IS

SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 19035

1. IN MY MEETING WITH SADAT TODAY, I AGAIN EMPHASIZED
IMPORTANCE THAT BOTH SIDES NOW AVOID ADDITIONAL PUBLIC
EXCHANGES SO THAT PEACE PROCESS CAN BE PUT BACK ON THE
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TRACK. I TOLD HIM OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENT
OF LAST NIGHT, EXPRESSING THE PRESIDENT'S AND YOUR HOPE
THAT THE RECENT PUBLIC EXCHANGES ARE BEHIND US AND THAT
EVERY EFFORT NOW BE MADE TO RECAPTURE SPIRIT FOLLOWING
MEETINGS BETWEEN SADAT AND BEGIN SO THAT QUIET DIPLOMACY
MIGHT TACKLE THE SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS. (I HAD ALREADY
MADE THIS BASIC POINT TO HIM IN MY MEETING OF YESTERDAY,

BUT DID NOT AT THAT TIME HAVE PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATE-MENT.)

2. SADAT SAID HE GENERALLY AGREED. HE NOTED THERE WILL BE AN OCTOBER MAGAZINE INTERVIEW WITH HIM, WHICH APPEARS THIS COMING FRIDAY. I EXPRESSED STRONG HOPE THAT THIS MIGHT BE LOOKED AT WITH A VIEW TO TONING DOWN ANY UNNECESSARY PERSONAL ATTACKS ON BEGIN. HE SAID HE WOULD SPEAK TO OCTOBER CHIEF EDITOR, ANIS MANSOUR, TO GO THROUGH THE INTERVIEW WITH THIS IN MIND.

3. THIS ALSO GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY TO SADAT WHAT I HAD PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED TO VP MUBARAK, PRIMIN MAMDUH SALEM, FONMIN KAMEL, PEOPLES ASSEMBLY SPEAKER SAYED MAREI AND OTHERS ABOUT AVOIDING PHRASEOLOGY THAT HAS ANTI-SEMITIC OVERTONES. I REMINDED SADAT THAT ANIS MANSOUR IS RABID ON THE SUBJECT AND OUGHT TO BE RESTRAINED. NO ONE CAN BLAME EGYPT FOR CRITICIZING ISRAELI POLICIES THAT IT DISAGREES WITH, BUT ANY SUCH CRITICISM SHOULD AVOID ANTI-SEMITIC SLURS. I MENTIONED THE RECENT MOUSTAFA AMIN "SHYLOCK" CALUMNIATION, WHICH PRIMIN BEGIN HAD VIEWED AS UNADULTERATED ANTI-SEMITISM. THIS HAD BEEN TOTALLY UNNECESSARY AND REPETITION OF SUCH LANGUAGE, I POINTED OUT, WILL ONLY HURT EGYPT'S IMAGE IN WORLD PUBLIC OPINION.

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4. SADAT GOT THE POINT. HE SAID THAT AS OF TOMORROW, THURSDAY, THERE WILL BE NO MORE SUCH ATTACKS. HE WILL ISSUE INSTRUCTIONS TO THAT EFFECT LATER TODAY. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD BY MOUSA SABRI, EDITOR OF AL AKHBAR AND ONE OF SADAT'S PRINCIPAL SPEECH WRITERS, THAT WORD HAS ALREADY GONE OUT FROM VP MUBARAK TO AVOID LANGUAGE THAT HAS ANTI-SEMITIC OVERTONES. EILTS
UNQUOTE VANCE

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